WORKING MEN'S COLLEGE BUILDING FUND.

STATEMENT BY THE COUNCIL.

45, Great Ormond Street.
January, 1866.

"This College was founded in 1854. The students are, for the most part, "working men, and the teachers are, in general, members of the Universities and "of different professions, or those who have themselves been students in the "College. Its purpose was and is to unite these classes together, by associating "them in the common work of teaching and learning. It provides instruction at "the smallest possible cost (the teaching being almost wholly unpaid) in the "subjects with which it most concerns English citizens to be acquainted, and "thus tries to place a liberal education within the reach of working men."*

In carrying out these objects we have had some measure of success. The number of students was, at the end of the first term, 145; it is now 509. In the year 1857, finding the hired house in which we had begun our work too small, we purchased, for £1500, the large freehold house and ground which we now occupy. This was effected by means of a loan of £1000, and a gift of the remaining £500 from the Principal. The debt so created has since been reduced to £400 by savings from the current income, aided by the unsolicited donation of friends. With the increase in the number of students has come an increase in the number of classes and sub-divisions of classes; and for some time past we have been sorely pressed for space. This pressure has been and is a serious hindrance to the progress of the work of the College—a hindrance daily and hourly felt. Further removal being for many reasons out of the question, we have no option but to *build*.

We want chiefly these things:

(1.) A room or rooms for the Art Department, the rooms now occupied by the Drawing Classes being entirely unfit for the special purposes of an Art School. [No department of our College has been more successful than our Art Classes, carried on from the first under the general supervision of Mr. Ruskin. We may say that at no period of the existence of the College have we ever had space enough to admit all who would have wished to join these classes.]

(2.) A moderate sized hall or room for General Meetings, Lectures, and social purposes, capable of containing some 300 or 400 persons.

(3.) A better room or rooms than we have now got for the Adult School. [The School serves at once as a feeder to the College and as a field for the exercise in tuition of our students, by whom exclusively it has always been carried on.]

(4.) A room to contain a Museum, and serve as a Natural History class-room. [We have considerable geological and other collections, chiefly accumulated by the members of the Physical Science Classes; but for lack of space they cannot be properly arranged or effectively used. The only room which can now be spared for a "museum" is one not much larger than a closet, and the Physical Science Department of the College is from this cause debarred the possibility of progress or expansion.]

(5.) More small rooms for classes and general purposes.

A site is already provided, the ground in the rear of the house (12,000 square feet in area), being the freehold property of the College.

We are advised that such a building as this can be well and substantially built in a plain but good style for about £3000 to £3500. A cheaper building might possibly answer the end immediately in view, but we are anxious that whatever

* The "General Prospectus," from which this paragraph is extracted, and the Programme of Classes for the current term, will show in detail the nature of the work done in the College.

is put upon the ground shall be not unworthy of the purpose which it is to serve. The College, will, we hope, outlast the present generation, and we must therefore make our buildings worthy to range with any others which our successors may erect when the present old houses are taken down.

Financially the College is self-supporting. For several years, thanks to the excellent admininistration of our funds by a Students' Finance Committee, the income from students' fees has met our current expenditure, leaving a margin available for the reduction of our mortgage debt. But the sum now wanted would fall heavily on a few contributors, such as those friends who from time to time have kindly assisted us with donations or subscriptions. We have never yet asked money of the general public—we think we are justified in doing so now.

Considering the vast endowments which the benefactions of former ages have provided for the education of the people, endowments to which the wealthiest of us are the most indebted, it would be a disgrace to a wealthy metropolis like this if it were necessary to beg long at the present day for the inconsiderable sum we are now asking for. And the amount of labour and thought which is being voluntarily devoted to the undertaking, and by none more freely than by our students, affords, we think, some guarantee that we shall not misspend what may be given us. Finally, though many a single purse might well defray our needs, we may perhaps especially commend them to those who would be willing to take part in the teaching of this and other Colleges if they were not prevented by professional and other avocations. Will they not share our work by helping us to develope it?

Signed on behalf of the Council of Teachers,

F. D. MAURICE, Principal.

Contributions may be sent to the London and County Bank, Oxford Street Branch ("Working Men's College Account"); to the Secretary, at the College; (P. O. Orders to be payable to Thomas Shorter); or by cheques payable to the order of the Treasurer, R. B. Litchfield, Esq., 4 Hare Court, Temple, or to any member of the Council of Teachers.

The following donations have already been received or promised:—

His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales £26 5 0

	£	s.	d.
Rev. F. D. Maurice, Principal, from publication of Lectures on the Suffrage ..	100	0	0
Ditto (proceeds of delivery of the same Lectures at the College)	12	7	11
His Grace the Duke of Argyll	5	0	0
Conrad Wilkinson, Esq.	52	10	0
John Stuart Mill, Esq., M.P.	5	0	0
* Vernon Lushington, Esq.	50	0	0
Samuel Morley, Esq., M.P.	21	0	0
A Friend, per Rev. F. D. Maurice ..	10	10	0
* Arthur Cohen, Esq.	10	0	0
W. Powell, Esq.	10	0	0
Sir Charles Bunbury	5	0	0
Francis Turner Palgrave, Esq.	5	0	0
Andrew Johnston, Esq.	5	0	0
Hensleigh Wedgwood, Esq.	5	0	0
John Vincent, Esq.	5	0	0
Richard H. Hutton, Esq.	2	0	0
* Thomas Woolner, Esq.	2	0	0
Henry Footman, Esq.	5	0	0
Shadworth H. Hodson, Esq.	25	0	0
Vincent S. Sean, Esq.	5	0	0
Somerset Beaumont, Esq., M.P.	10	0	0
Sir T. Fowell Buxton, Bart., M.P. ..	30	0	0
* Mr. John Roebuck, New York, Certificated Student, and Fellow of the Working Men's College	10	0	0
John Edward Ellis, Esq.	2	2	0
Horace Mann, Esq.	1	1	0
Frederick Hill, Esq.	2	0	0
* Godfrey Lushington, Esq.	20	0	0
Edward Pearson, Esq.	1	1	0
Sir John Lubbock, Bart.	5	0	0

	£	s.	d.
Sir Thomas Phillips	5	5	0
Miss Caroline Fox	1	1	0
* J. Lee, Esq.	1	1	0
G. Dornbusch, Esq.	1	1	0
George Godwin, Esq., F.R.S.	1	1	0
Rev. Henry Sandford	1	0	0
Frank Crisp, Esq.	0	10	0
* The Rev. J. Ll. Davies	10	0	0
* D. C. Lathbury, Esq.	5	5	0
* R. B. Litchfield, Esq.	25	0	0
* John Westlake, Esq.	20	0	0
Mrs. F. J. Furnivall	2	2	0
* Mr. W. Jeffrey	5	0	0
C. D., per Rev. F. D. Maurice	50	0	0
* W. P. Pattison, Esq.	10	0	0
Andrew Johnston, Esq. (2nd don.) ..	20	0	0
"Heavy Dragoon"	3	0	0
Alexander Macmillan, Esq.	10	10	0
C. B. Locock, Esq.	15	0	0
Miss Irby	3	0	0
Miss Swanwick	5	0	0
Howard W. Elphinstone, Esq.	5	0	0
* Professor J. R. Seeley	10	0	0
Miss E. R. Allport	1	0	0
J. Grece, Esq.	2	0	0
J. Manning, Esq.	5	0	0
H. W. Dauglish, Esq.	5	0	0
John G. Catley, Esq.	10	0	0
Edward E. Bowen, Esq.	2	2	0
C. B.	0	10	6
Mr. W. A. Dalziel (Student)	0	10	6
Mr. Kenny	0	10	6

* Members of the Council of Teachers.